

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

Replace the claims with the following rewritten listing:

1. (Currently Amended) Compressed chewing gum tablet ~~(37)~~ comprising:
a chewing gum center ~~(38)~~ fully or partly encapsulated by a barrier layer ~~(39)~~;
said gum center ~~(38)~~ comprising a compression of gum base granules ~~(32)~~ and
chewing gum additives ~~(33)~~; and
said gum base granules ~~(32)~~ having a moderated tackiness.
2. (Currently Amended) Compressed chewing gum tablet according to claim 1, wherein
said moderated tackiness ~~being~~ is obtained by ~~means of~~ at least one natural resin
incorporated in at least a part of the gum base granules ~~(32)~~.
3. (Currently Amended) Compressed chewing gum tablet according to claim 1 ~~or 2~~,
wherein the compressed chewing gum tablet comprises about 3 % to 50 % by weight of
natural resins, ~~preferably about 4% to 30% by weight.~~
4. (Currently Amended) Compressed chewing gum tablet according to ~~any of the claims~~
~~1 to 3~~, wherein the compressed chewing gum tablet comprises about 0.5% to 30% by
weight of elastomers, ~~preferably about 5% to 25% by weight.~~
5. (Currently Amended) Compressed chewing gum tablet according to ~~any of the claims~~
~~1 to 4~~, wherein the compressed chewing gum tablet comprises about 0.1 % to 15 % by
weight of flavoring agents, ~~preferably about 0.8 % to 5 % by weight.~~
6. (Currently Amended) Compressed chewing gum tablet according to ~~any of the claims~~
~~2 to 5~~, wherein the natural resins provides an improved and sticky texture of the tablet.

7. (Currently Amended) Compressed chewing gum tablet according to ~~any of the claims 1 to 6~~, wherein said barrier layer comprises ~~e.g.~~ at least one of lubricants, anti-adherents and glidants.
8. (Currently Amended) Compressed chewing gum tablet according to ~~any of the claims 1 to 7~~, wherein the barrier layer comprises magnesium stearate.
9. (Currently Amended) Compressed chewing gum tablet according to ~~any of the claims 1 to 8~~, wherein said barrier layer comprises at least one of metallic stearates, hydrogenated vegetable oils, partially hydrogenated vegetable oils, polyethylene glycols, polyoxyethylene monostearates, animal fats, silicates, silicates dioxide, talc, magnesium stearates, calcium stearates, fumed silica, powdered hydrogenated cottonseed oils, hydrogenated vegetable oils, hydrogenated soya oil and mixtures thereof.
10. (Currently Amended) Compressed chewing gum tablet according to ~~any of the claims 1 to 9~~, wherein the gum center is substantially free of lubricants, anti-adherents and glidants.
11. (Currently Amended) Compressed chewing gum tablet according to ~~any of the claims 1 to 10~~, wherein the gum center comprises wax.
12. (Currently Amended) Compressed chewing gum tablet according to ~~any of the claims 1 to 11~~, wherein the gum center is substantially free of wax.
13. (Currently Amended) Compressed chewing gum tablet according to ~~any of the claims 1 to 12~~, wherein said barrier layer is provided during the manufacturing of the chewing gum tablet.
14. (Currently Amended) Compressed chewing gum according to ~~any of the claims 1 to 13~~, wherein said natural resin comprises rosin esters.

15. (Currently Amended) Compressed chewing gum according to ~~any of the claims 21 to 44~~, wherein said natural resin comprises at least one of glycerol esters of partially hydrogenated rosins, glycerol esters of polymerised rosins, glycerol esters of partially dimerised rosins, glycerol esters of tall oil rosins, pentaerythritol esters of partially hydrogenated rosins, methyl esters of rosins, partially hydrogenated methyl esters of rosins or pentaerythritol esters of rosins.

16. (Currently Amended) Compressed chewing gum according to ~~any of the claims 1 to 15~~, wherein said chewing gum additives comprises sweeteners in ~~the an~~ amount of from about 5 to about 95% by weight of the chewing gum, ~~more typically about 20 to about 80% by weight such as 30 to 60% by weight of the gum.~~

17. (Currently Amended) Compressed chewing gum according to ~~any of the claims 51 to 46~~, wherein at least a part of the flavoring agents has been teared into the gum base previous to compression.

18. (Currently Amended) Compressed chewing gum according to ~~any of the claims 1 to 17~~, wherein said chewing gum additives comprises active ingredients.

19. (Currently Amended) Compressed chewing gum according to ~~any of the claims 1 to 18~~, wherein at least a part of said active ingredients has been teared into the gum base previous to compression.

20. (Cancelled)

21. (Currently Amended) Compression chewing gum granulate comprising about 5 to 80 % by weight of at least one natural resin, ~~preferably 10 to 45 % by weight.~~

22. (Original) Compression chewing gum granulate according to claim 21, wherein the gum base granulate comprises at least one flavor compound.

23. (Currently Amended) Compression chewing gum granulate according to claim ~~21 or~~ 22, wherein said at least one flavor compound has been teared into the gum base.

24. (Currently Amended) Compression chewing gum granulate according to ~~any of the~~ claims 21 ~~to 23~~, wherein said natural resin comprises rosin esters.

25. (Currently Amended) Compression chewing gum granulate according to ~~any of the~~ claims 21 ~~to 24~~, wherein said natural resin comprises at least one of glycerol esters of partially hydrogenated rosins, glycerol esters of polymerised rosins, glycerol esters of partially dimerised rosins, glycerol esters of tally oil rosins, pentaerythritol esters of partially hydrogenated rosins, methyl esters of rosins, partially hydrogenated methyl esters of rosins or -pentaerythritol esters of rosins.

26. (Currently Amended) Compression chewing gum granulate according to ~~any of the~~ claims 21 ~~to 25~~, further comprising a plasticizer wherein said plasticizer comprises approximately 0.5 to about 35 weight percent of the chewing gum granulate.

27. (Currently Amended) Compression chewing gum granulate according to ~~any of the~~ claims 21 ~~to 26~~, wherein said gum base granulate comprises active ingredients.

28. (Currently Amended) Method of providing a compressed chewing gum comprising:
~~the steps of~~

- mixing at least one elastomer and at least one plasticizer into a homogenous gum base;₁
- said gum base comprising about 5% to 75% by weight of natural resin;₁
- granulating the gum base;₁
- blending the granulated gum base ~~(32)~~ with chewing gum additives ~~(33)~~;₁
- depositing a barrier layer ~~(L1, L2, 39)~~ on at least a part of a gum center forming granulate formation; and
- compressing the mixture into a tablet.

29. (Original) Method of providing a compressed chewing gum according to claim 28, whereby at least a part of the gum base being premixed with flavor.

30. (Currently Amended) Method of providing a compressed chewing gum according to claim 28-~~or 29~~, whereby said gum base additives comprising active ingredients.

31. (Currently Amended) Method of providing a compressed chewing gum according to ~~any of claims 28 to 30~~, whereby the barrier layer comprises at least one of metallic stearates, hydrogenated vegetable oils, partially hydrogenated vegetable oils, polyethylene glycols, polyoxyethylene monostearates, animal fats, silicates, silicates dioxide, talc, magnesium stearates, calcium stearates, fumed silica, powdered hydrogenated cottonseed oils, hydrogenated vegetable oils, hydrogenated soya oil and mixtures thereof.

32. (Currently Amended) Chewing gum according to ~~any of the claims 1 to 20~~, wherein the chewing gum has a water content of less than about 2.0 %, ~~preferably less than 1.5%~~ ~~by weight~~.

33. (Currently Amended) Granulate according to ~~any of the claims 21 to 27~~, wherein the granulatechewing has a water content of less than about 2.0 %, ~~preferably less than 1.5%~~ ~~by weight~~.